

REMARKS

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment for the above-referenced application.

Claims 94-100, 102, 105-110, 112-116, 119-120, 123, 126-129, and 131 are pending;

Claim 120 is currently amended.

Applicant was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable, and that currently no claim is generic.

The species stated are:

- a. Claims 94-100, 102, and 105 claimed a second metallization structure connects multiple separate portion of first metallization structure, and
- b. Claims 106-110, 112-116, 119, 120, 123, 126-129 and 131 claimed a first metallization structure having a first contact pad, a second metallization structure having a second contact pad connected to the first contact pad, and the positions of first and second contact pads from top view are different.

Applicant provisionally elects to be examined the species described by the Examiner as Group b., which reads on Claims 106-110, 112-116, 119, 120, 123, 126-129 and 131. This election is made with traverse of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.143 for the reasons given in the following paragraphs.

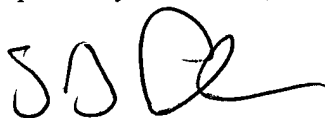
The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the Requirement for Election of Species given in the Office Action, because of the increased costs applicant would be forced to bear if the two species are separately examined. Furthermore, the field of search must necessarily cover both species, in addition to other related Classes and subclasses, to provide a complete and adequate search.

Withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement, and allowance of the present Patent Application, is therefore respectfully requested.

Moreover, the scope of the elected Claims 106-110, 112-116, 119-120, 123, 126-129, and 131 should not be limited to the invention as described by the Examiner as Group b.

It is requested that should there be any problems with this Amendment, please call the undersigned Attorney at (845) 452-5863.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761